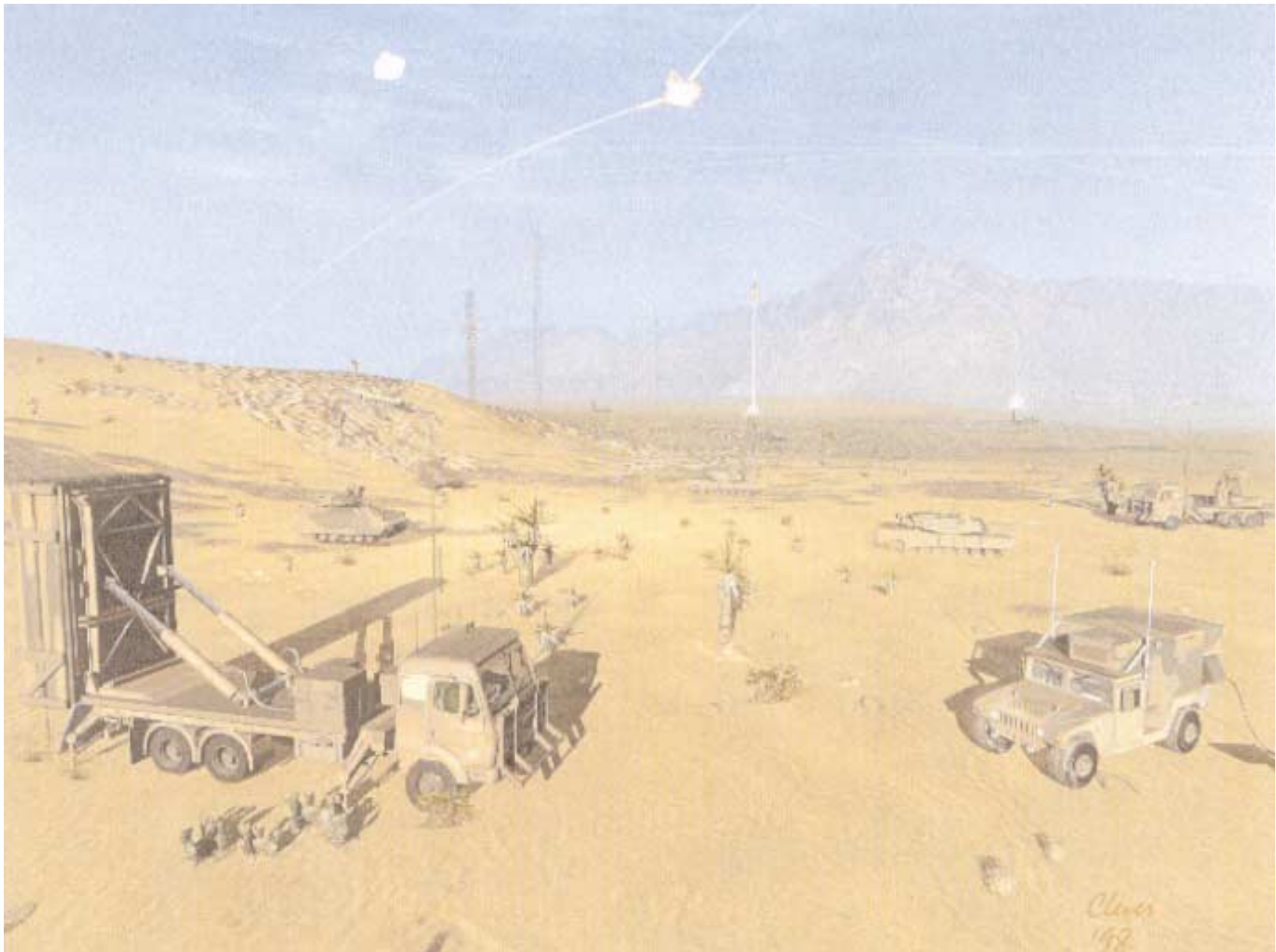


Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS)



MISSION

Provide lower-tier theater air and missile defense to maneuver forces and other land component commanders' designated critical assets throughout all phases of tactical operations.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS) will utilize its netted and distributed architecture to ensure joint and allied interoperability, and to enable a seamless interface to the next generation of battle management command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence (BMC4I). MEADS' improved seeker/sensor components and its ability to link other airborne and ground based sensors facilitates the employment of its battle elements. This provides a robust 360 degree defense against the full spectrum of Theater Ballistic Missile (TBM), cruise missile, unmanned aerial vehicle, Tactical Air-to-Surface Missile (TASM), rotary, and fixed wing threats.

The MEADS will provide the following:

- Defense against multiple and simultaneous attacks by Short Range Ballistic Missiles (SRBMs), low cross-section cruise missiles, and other air-breathing threats to the force
- Immediate deployment for early entry operations with C-130 and C-17 deployability
- Mobility to displace rapidly and to protect maneuver force assets during offensive operations
- A distributed architecture and modular components to increase survivability and flexibility of employment in a number of operational configurations
- A significant increase in firepower with greatly reduced requirements for personnel and logistics

Given these characteristics, MEADS can rapidly respond to a variety of crisis situations and satisfy the needs of the joint operational and tactical commanders.

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

No known foreign counterpart

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

PROGRAM STATUS

MEADS has completed the project definition and validation phase.

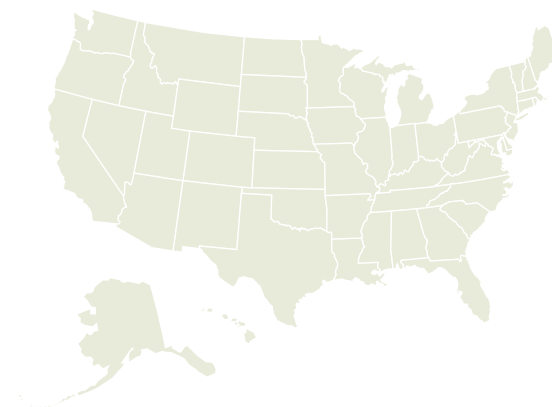
4QFY99 Selected international contractor team to continue MEADS development.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

3QFY00 Begin a three-year risk reduction effort to minimize the technical, cost, and schedule risk of a follow-on, cooperative program.

PRIME CONTRACTORS

MEADS International was selected as the prime contractor to continue MEADS development during the risk reduction effort. This consortium comprises Lockheed Martin (U.S.), Alenia-Marconi (Italy), and DaimlerChrysler Aerospace (Germany)



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

